

Michael O. Leavitt Governor Lowell P. Braxton Division Director

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August 14, 1998

Terry Steele 296 North Center Street Santaquin, Utah 84655

Re: Acceptance of Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations, Cove Travertine

Project, S/027/071, Millard County, Utah

Dear Mr. Steele:

Thank you for your Notice of Intention to Commence Small Mining Operations, received by the Division on July 22, 1998. The application for the proposed Cove Travertine Project, located in the NW 1/4 of Section 5, T25S, R7W, SLBM, Millard County, Utah is complete and no additional information is required from the Division at this time. Due to other permitting issues, we apologize for not responding within the usual 15-day timeframe. Hopefully, this has not caused any hardship for you. The Division received your \$100.00 permit fee for this project.

For your reference, I have enclosed copies of our summarized rules regarding "Operation and Reclamation Practices," and the statutory penalty for failure to reclaim a minesite (SMO-1). Please give special consideration to item #10 of the "Operation and Reclamation Practices. Stockpiling topsoil material prior to beginning your mining operation will help ensure successful revegetation efforts upon final reclamation of the minesite. If the area being mined is a solid rock outcrop, or if the land surface is very rocky, then soil stockpiling is probably not possible. However, even the first few inches of undeveloped material is worth saving to aid in later revegetation efforts, and future regulatory release from reclamation requirements.

Should you wish to expand your operation beyond the five (5) acre limitation, please notify this office as soon as possible to discuss the necessary permitting requirements. Approval of a large mining notice could take from six to twelve months or longer.

A Memorandum of Understanding between this Division and the State Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) requires us to notify them upon receipt of a mining application. If you haven't already done so, you are advised to contact their office prior to starting your small mining operation to determine whether additional permits and/or approvals are required. We will forward a copy of this letter and your notice to the DEQ for their review. Their address and phone number is: Department of Environmental Quality, 288 North 1460 West, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84116, (801) 538-6146.

Page 2 Terry Steele S/027/071 August 14, 1998

Approval of mineral exploration or mining operations by the Division of Oil, Gas and Mining does not constitute approval to commence operations upon federal lands managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) or United States Forest Service (USFS). Before conducting mining operations on these lands, the operator must provide written notification and obtain written approval from the appropriate agency. We have received a copy of the BLM's August 4, 1998 letter to you stating that if the sites were flagged by August 11, 1998, they anticipated accepting your notice for exploration work only. The BLM would not accept the notice for mining activities until further information was submitted to their office. Please notify us when you receive the BLM's acceptance for mining at this site.

Thank you for your cooperation. When in the area, a member of the Division staff will examine the site. Best wishes with your mining operation.

Sincerely,

Tom Munson

Senior Reclamation Specialist

jb Enclosure

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Kiran Bhayani, DWQ w/NOI

Roger L. Bon, UGS

Tracking File

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